

Message Text

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ORIGIN EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 AGR-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00 COME-00

DODE-00 FRB-02 H-03 INR-10 INT-08 L-03 LAB-06 NSAE-00

NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 AID-20 CIEP-02 SS-20 STR-08

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DRAFTED BY EB/OT/TA:WTADAMS:JW

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EUR/CE:LHEICHLER

COMMERCE:MFELDMAN

COMMERCE:GBARE

INTERIOR:GMARKON

STR:MPOMERANZ

EUR/RPE:RMEIMA

----- 049341

R 090254Z JAN 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BONN

INFO AMEMBASSY WARSAW

AMCONSUL DUSSELDORF

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, GW, US

SUBJECT: FRG TARIFF QUOTA ON COAL

REF: BONN 17452

1. U.S. WOULD NOT OPPOSE IN PRINCIPLE FRG MOVE TO EXTEND
TO POLAND "MFN" TREATMENT UNDER FRG'S GLOBAL TARIFF QUOTA

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FOR HARD COAL IMPORTS FROM U.S. AND OTHER NON-EC COUNTRIES.

1 MILLION TONS OF 5 MILLION TON GLOBAL QUOTA IS NOW UNUSED. HOWEVER, WE NOTE CURRENT POLISH DELIVERIES AMOUNT TO 1.8 MILLION TONS UNDER BILATERAL AGREEMENT.

2. EMBASSY OFFICER WAS CORRECT TO QUESTION IF RESTRICTIONS ON COAL IMPORTS ARE JUSTIFIED UNDER CURRENT CONDITIONS OF ENERGY SHORTAGE AND IF SO, TO SUGGEST THAT FRG CONSIDER INCREASING GLOBAL QUOTA BY AMOUNT OF CURRENT POLISH DELIVERIES. AS A MINIMUM THEY COULD PROTECT TRADITIONAL SUPPLIERS BY ENLARGING THE GLOBAL QUOTA BY .8 MILLION TONS, THE AMOUNT BY WHICH POLISH DELIVERIES PLUS CURRENT "MFN" DELIVERIES WOULD EXCEED THE CURRENT 5 MILLION TON GLOBAL QUOTA.

3. IN FUTURE CONTACTS WITH FRG, EMBASSY OFFICERS SHOULD AGAIN QUESTION CONTINUED NEED FOR RESTRICTIONS AND SUGGEST THAT, IF QUOTA SYSTEM IS MAINTAINED, FRG PROVIDE FOR *EVIEW

AFTER PERIOD OF 3-5 YEARS, (A) TO DETERMINE IF TRADITIONAL SUPPLIERS ARE BEING HARMED BY INCLUSION OF POLAND UNDER GLOBAL QUOTA, AND (B) TO DETERMINE IN PARTICULAR IF TRADITIONAL SUPPLIERS ARE BEING HARMED BY DUMPING OR OTHER UNFAIR PRACTICES AVAILABLE TO STATE TRADING SYSTEMS.

4. IN LIGHT OF UN*ERTAIN CONDITIONS IN WORLD FUELS MARKETS, EMBASSY SHOULD BE CAREFUL TO AVOID ANY ASSURANCE OR OTHER INDICATION THAT U.S. PLANS TO MAINTAIN CURRENT LEVEL OF COAL DELIVERIES. OUR OBJECT IS ONLY TO PRESERVE RIGHTS WHICH EXIST UNDER PRESENT SYSTEM. AT A MINIMUM THIS INCLUDES ABILITY TO EXPORT AT CURRENT LEVELS. AT OPTIMUM, IT INCLUDES OPPORTUNITY TO EXPAND DELIVERIES UP TO LIMIT OF CURRENT GLOBAL QUOTA INCLUDING UNUSED 1 MILLION TONS. EMBASSY SHOULD POINT OUT THAT U.S. POSITION DOES NOT IMPLY DETERMINATION THAT CURRENT FRG QUOTA SYSTEM OR QUOTA LEVELS ARE WARRANTED BY ECONOMIC CONSIDERATIONS.
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